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## **Honduras**

# Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative

# **FAIRS Country Report 2015**

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### **Report Highlights:**

The National Plant and Animal Health Service (SENASA) of the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock has requested that the expiration date, lot number, and production date appear on the shipping carton(s). The requested dates must be provided in the Day/Month/Year format. If the products do not comply with this requirement, they are not allowed entry and must be returned.

#### **Section I. Food Laws:**

The Honduran Government (GOH) institutions that are responsible for food and agricultural imports are the Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG) and the Secretariat of Health (MOH). SAG has as its main regulatory agency the National Plant and Animal Health Service (SENASA). SENASA establishes regulations, procedures, and oversees compliance regarding plant, animal health, and food safety of agricultural products imported and exported. This includes diagnosis and epidemiological surveillance of pests and diseases, quarantine control and coordination of various activities related to agricultural products. SENASA issues the import permits for plant, animal, processed, consumer ready food products, agricultural chemicals, veterinary products; and inputs used in food processing for human or animal consumption that enter Honduras. SAG is governed through the Phytosanitary & Zoosanitary Law (Congressional Decree 157-94, modified via Decree 344-2005) and its implementing regulations.

The MOH agency responsible for sanitary registration, surveillance, and inspection of foods products approved to be sold at the retail and wholesale level was previously known as the Sanitary Regulation Directorate (SRD). The GOH changed the name of SRD to the "General Directorate of Surveillance of the Health Normative Framework" (Dirección General de Vigilancia del Marco Normativo en Salud - DGVMN) through Executive Decree PCM-061-2013. The MOH's authority is governed by its health code, which is spelled out in Congressional Decree 65-91 and Executive Decree 06-2005 which is titled, "Sanitary Control of Products, Services and Establishments of Sanitary Interest Regulation."

The DGVMN applies the following regulations in order of precedence:

- 1. Honduran regulations:
  - a) Health Code
  - b) Sanitary Control of Products, Services, and Establishments of Sanitary Interest
  - c) Quality of Bottled Water and Ice for Human Direct or Indirect Human Consumption
  - d) Honey Processing
- 2. Central America Customs Union (CACU) Regulations
- 3. CODEX Alimentarius Regulations
- 4. The U.S. Federal Code (U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations)
- 5. Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) guidelines

The Consumer Protection Law and the Municipalities Law also address food safety issues to some extent. The aforementioned food and agricultural imports legislations and regulations are geared toward: a) protecting plant, animal and consumer health; b) avoiding fraud in transactions which deal with food and agricultural products; and c) protecting Honduras' economic interests in both domestic and international food and agricultural trade.

In reference to the Central America Customs Union (CACU) regulations, please refer to the Honduras GAIN Report: Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Subject Report Number HO1409.

As is the case with limited resources, enforcement of existing laws and regulations is not always consistent. At times, the GOH lacks the basic infrastructure and the necessary human and economic resources to adequately enforce its regulations in the commercialization stage. Entrance inspection of food and agricultural products imports into the country is done at major ports and border crossings. However, it is common knowledge that many products enter unchecked as they go through illegal channels. This situation, in turn, forces the DGVMN to inspect processed food products at the wholesale and retail levels. The GOH is making an effort; nevertheless, to strengthen enforcement through increased inspection, laboratory testing in terms of both quantity and quality.

## **Section II. Labeling Requirements:**

#### A. General Requirements

Labels must comply with MOH labeling requirements, the guidelines stated in the CODEX Alimentarius and the Central America Technical Regulations (RTCA) Number 67.01.07.10 General Labeling for Pre-packed Foods. The DGVMN carries out local enforcement of labeling regulations. A general guide of the labeling requirements for national and foreign food products is provided below. Further details can be found in the RTCA: 67.01.07.10.

- a) Name of the product, which is normally specific, must indicate the true nature of the product. The name of the product should not mislead the buyer or consumer. For example, the label should indicate if the product is dehydrated, concentrated, reconstituted, smoked or pasteurized among others. In the case of imitation products, the word "imitation" should be displayed as the same size of the product's name.
- b) Name of the manufacturer or distributor of the product.
- c) Country of origin of the product.
- d) List of ingredients. The list should be clearly marked and must be in descending order by initial weight at the time the product was manufactured. Foodstuffs must declare ingredients assessed as potential allergens from the following list: cereals that contain gluten, shellfish, eggs, fish, soy, peanuts, milk (lactose), nuts and sulfite in concentrations of 10 mg. The list must specify if water had been added, except in cases when water is part of an ingredient such as brine, syrup or broth.
- e) Net content. The net content must be specified in units using the International System of Units (metric system) in the following manner: volume for liquid food products, weight for solid food products, and either weight or volume for semi-solid or viscous food products.
- f) Production and Expiration dates. The dates must appear in Spanish on the shipping carton(s). The

dates must be written in the order: Day/Month/Year format (DD/MM/YYYY). The manufacturer must ensure that the dates are displayed with indelible ink and it must be printed in such a way that it cannot be erased or easily changed. The expiration date must be easy for consumers to read. The order of day and month can be changed only when written in letters or month abbreviations.

- g) Lot number. This number must be engraved or printed in a permanent manner and may be placed on any external surface of the package.
- h) Complementary Labeling. Stick-on labels are allowed to comply fully with Honduran labeling requirements on product information, but not to indicate the manufacturing or expiration date. The label must be translated into Spanish with the same information that is given in the foreign language label. The DGVMN checks to see that the complementary label matches the description in the foreign language.

Labels must be placed prior to customs clearance and at the time of product registration. The DGVMN is working towards streamlining its procedures to ensure enforcement of existing regulations.

- i) Sanitary Registration Number. The requirements for the Sanitary Registration Number (SRN) of a product are the same for food, natural products and chemical substances. The steps needed to obtain a SRN are described in Section VII: Product Registration.
- j) Sample-size products or institutional packed product destined for the food service sector do not need special labeling requirements.

Additional Labeling Requirements:

In addition to the aforementioned, the following labeling requirements indicated by CODEX apply:

- 1. Labels may be made of paper or any other material that can be attached or permanently printed on the package.
- 2. All writing on labels has to be clear and legible, and should not fade under normal use.
- 3. Labels that are attached to a container may have text on the reverse side as long as it is clearly visible through the container.
- 4. When the product requires refrigeration, it must be labeled accordingly.
- 5. When the product is easily contaminated and requires refrigeration after opening or must be consumed immediately, the label must state either: "For immediate consumption after opening" or "Refrigerate after opening", whichever the case may be.
- 6. When the product is artificial, it must be labeled accordingly.
- 7. Labels are not permitted on the internal part of a package or container where they would come into

contact with the product itself.

8. Required labeling information should not be displayed on strips, bands, lids, tops, covers, caps, or any other part of the package which is used to open the product.

Any exceptions to the above requirements, with regard to products donated for humanitarian purposes, must be approved by the DGVMN.

## B. Requirements for Other Specific Labeling

Nutritional Labeling is required in Honduras. The DGVMN uses the guidelines stated in CODEX and the RTCA: 67.01.60:10 on Nutritional Labeling of Pre-Packed Foods for Human Consumption of Population over Three Years Old. The standard U.S. nutritional fact panel is acceptable.

The DGVMN treats nutrient content claims (e.g., "low in saturated fat"), absolute descriptors (e.g., "high fiber or low fat"), relative descriptors (e.g., "light" or "reduced sugar"), and other implied claims, on a case-by-case basis when complaints are received from the public.

Labels should not indicate the product has therapeutic, healing, or any other attributes not normally associated with the product. While enforcement of such health claims is often difficult, the DGVMN takes special care in ensuring this is the case with products that are widely used by the population and require added ingredients to increase their nutritional value such as the case of flour, salt, and sugar. By law, sugar for human consumption must be fortified with vitamin A. Salt must be fortified with iodine, and wheat flour with iron, folic acid, vitamins B1 and B2, and niacin. The DGVMN oversees that these products are properly labeled as fortified.

The "Recommended Daily Allowance" (RDA) of certain additives may be included on the label. RDA standards may vary from those in the United States since Honduras follows those of Codex.

All food products which have been treated with radiation (ionizing energy) must have specified on the label (close to the name of the product) the nature of the treatment. When a radiated product is used as an ingredient in another product, it must be specified in the list of ingredients. Honduras does not require mandatory GMO labeling.

When a product contains preservatives, color, emulsifiers and other type of food additives, the label must specify the generic name or international code, purpose, and concentration of each. When a product contains enriched nutritious substances such as vitamins, mineral salts, and proteins the label should read: "Enriched Food Product" or "Enriched Artificial Food Product," whichever the case may be. The label should also specify the name and the content per serving or consumption unit.

The following products are excluded from specifying the expiration date: alcoholic beverages containing 10 percent or more of alcohol by volume, bakery products, which due to their nature, are generally consumed within 24 hours of the time they were produced (it is, however, common practice for bakeries to put an expiration date on products), vinegar, chewing gum, and fresh fruits and vegetables.

## **Section III. Packaging and Container Regulations:**

Containers can be of plastic, metal, glass, paperboard or any other materials which comply with requirements to maintain the quality and safety of the product. The packaging materials or containers should not absorb or transfer to the product components which will change the stability or quality of the product, or might cause content loss.

The quality control of the materials in contact with the food products is applied on a case-by-case basis. The controls can be applied in an official laboratory or in an international lab recognized by the Secretariat of Health. New or unusual packaging/containers are usually analyzed prior to product registration. Honduras does not require any special packaging or container size.

## **Section IV. Food Additives Regulations:**

Honduras's regulatory authorities recognize the guidelines stated in CODEX, FDA approved food additives and the RTCA: 67.04.54:10 - Processed Food and Beverages: Food Additives. When a product contains preservatives, coloring, emulsifiers and other type of food additives the label must specify the generic name or international code, purpose, and concentration of each.

The DGVMN accepts as safe the following seven colorings in foods:

Yellow #5	Yellow #6	Red #2	Red #3
Blue #1	Blue #2	Red #40	

U.S. exporters can obtain further information (in Spanish) on permitted or prohibited food additives at the following DGVMN's e-mail: direccion\_dgrs@yahoo.es or contact the USDA/FAS Tegucigalpa Office at AgTegucigalpa@fas.usda.gov.

#### **Section V. Pesticides and Other Contaminants:**

Pesticides and contaminants are regulated by SENASA's Plant Health Division. Ministerial Decree No.642-98 establishes the requirements for registration, importation, manufacturing, formulation, repackaging, re-bottling, transportation, storage, sale, use, management, and exportation of pesticides and contaminants.

SENASA uses a list of pesticides approved for use in Honduras and applies the Maximum Residue Levels (MRL's) for imported food products set forth by CODEX. If the tolerance levels are not covered by CODEX, SENASA applies the MRLs from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The importer and the pesticide must be registered with SENASA's Plant Health Division. SENASA follows international regulations for its registration process. An application for pesticide registration must be submitted with documents such as: Certificate of a Registered Pesticide Product issued by EPA or USDA and Certificate of Qualitative and Quantitative Composition issued by the producer or manufacturing company of the product.

In addition, other documents required are toxicological and eco-toxicological studies. After the product and the importer are registered with SENASA, the importer requests a permit from SENASA in order to import the product. Among the data required for the import permit are: Pro-form invoice, location and name of the manufacturer, lot number of the product and amount to import. An import permit request for the use and control of pesticides can be obtained at:

http://www.senasa-sag.gob.hn/formulario-y-solicitudes-de-importacion/ http://www.senasa-sag.gob.hn/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/SOLICITUD-DE-PLAGUICIDAS-CORREGIDO-08-07-2015.pdf

In order to regulate pesticide residue in foodstuffs, SENASA has acquired equipment via USDA's Food for Progress Program for analysis. SENASA's Personnel has been trained. It is expected that such services will be provided at the beginning of 2016.

U.S. exporters can obtain information on approved pesticides and allowed MRL's at SENASA's Plant Health Sub-Director's Office. Aflatoxin levels for corn in Honduras can be obtained at SENASA's Food Safety Unit. Honduras defers to CODEX standards for aflatoxin levels on food products. Please write to contacts data at Appendix II.

## **Section VI. Other Regulations and Requirements:**

Honduras does not require any inspection procedures or testing of products prior to shipment. The official certificates or special documents that must accompany shipments can be found on the following GAIN Reports for Honduras: Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) – Export Certificate Report Number HO1506, and Exporter Guide Report No. HO1508.

Products are monitored at the retail/wholesale distribution levels by the DGVMN, and SENASA's Plant Health Division for pesticides residues. Inspectors of the DGVMN check if the expiration date of the product is displayed, if it is not expired, the lot number and the organoleptic conditions of the product, among others.

#### **Section VII. Other Specific Standards:**

#### **Facility Registration:**

U.S. facilities do not need to be registered with a Honduran regulatory authority prior to export. Under the United States-Central America-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA-DR), Honduras recognizes the U.S. inspection services as equivalent to the ones in Honduras. This equivalence eliminates the requirement of a certification by Honduras of the U.S. plant to export to the Honduran market.

#### **Product Registration:**

All imported food and meat products - processed or raw - must have a Sanitary Registration Number (SRN) issued by the DGVMN prior entering the country. Only food samples to be used for the registration process will be allowed to enter the country without such number. Containers of food inputs waiting to be processed, labeled, or repacked, do not need SRNs. However, the DGVMN issues

a letter to authorize that it enters the country as food input. In the case of raw poultry to be sold at the retail level, the product must have a SRN. The label in the boxes with the raw product should display the number.

The procedure for registration of a product can be done by the importers or distributors (any person or company). It is not necessary to have a legal representation; however, it is suggested that if there is a problem during the process of registration, the importer should utilize a lawyer. The importer's representative should regularly check with the DGVMN to verify the status of the process—regular checking will insure that importers know if a document is missing or if the DGVMN requires further information.

The registration of a product is approximately US\$10.00. The following information must be submitted to the DGVMN for the registration process:

- **Applicant's information**: Name, Honduran ID or passport number (in the case of Honduras), name of legal representative, Honduran ID or passport number, address, phone, fax, e-mail, and address, phone, fax, and e-mail of the warehouse or distributor.
- Sanitary License: A document which certifies a business to store or process food. A Sanitary License is provided to the distributor or the importer's business by the DGVMN.
- **Manufacturer's information**: Name of factory or warehouse in the United States, address, phone, fax, and e-mail.
- **Product Information**: Name of product to be registered, product trademark, type of product, net content, sanitary registration number for renewals, and country of origin.
- Certificate of Free Sale. This annual certificate indicates that the exporter has permit to produce, manufacture, distribute and pack food products for human consumption. It states that the plant where the product has been produced or processed is regularly inspected for compliance with all health and sanitation requirements. It also certifies that the products are freely sold and consumed in the United States, as well as exported. The certificate is issued by the appropriate state-level health authorities or the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. For registration purposes, the Certificate of Free Sale (CFS) should be accompanied by a document that provides an endorsement of the signatures that appear on the CFS. This document can be an Apostille or an "Autentica" notarized document. For further information please see the Honduras GAIN Report: Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Export Certificate Report No. HO1506.
- **Original label of the imported product.** If the label is not in Spanish, a complementary label with the translation must accompany.
- Sample of the product for laboratory analysis. Products are divided in three risk areas:

Category "A" for products is the highest risk. These products are the easiest to contaminate and are consumed by a high level of the population. The category includes the following products: raw

and processed meats of all kinds, eggs (powder and liquid), milk (powder and liquid), cheese, cream, butter, yogurt, bottled water, ice, and raw and processed seafood of all kinds.

Category "B" is medium risk, such as flour, sugar, and salt.

Category "C" has the least risk, such as candy and cookies.

The laboratory analysis is conducted only on Category "A" products. The analysis is required in order to receive a sanitary registration. The registration of category "B" and "C" products does not require a sample of the product. Samples are required only in cases when there is an alert or outbreak of a "B" or "C" category product.

- **Product Registration**. The DGVMN regulations allow up to 30 working days to provide a SRN. As part of the registration process, the DGVM reviews the product's technical and legal aspects. When the opinion is given that the product complies with the requirements, the DGVM assigns a registration number. At this stage, the importer can request to the DGVMN a letter that certifies that the registration is in process; and that the product has already a number assigned. This letter allows import of the product during two months while the final resolution is issued for five years. The importer will need to pay about US\$10.00 per product for the issuance of the letter.
- Validity Period. The Sanitary Registration Number is valid for five years, during which time the product can be sold with a complementary label. However, when the SRN expires after five years, the number of the sanitary registration must be renewed and printed on the package. The DGVMN monitors retail stores to check if the product displays the expiration date and the SRN.
- CACU members agreed that for the products produced or processed in a CACU country, when a product obtains a SRN, it does not need to be registered in another. Products produced in the United States are not eligible for the registration exemption. It is important to note that the origin of the product is considered to be a CACU country if the product is processed in a CACU country, even if the raw material is not from a CACU member country. The procedures to register products produced or processed in Central America have been officially codified within Honduras with the approval of RTCA: 67.01.31.06 "Processed Food. Procedure to Grant Sanitary Registration and Sanitary Inscription." Importers can find the application form on the SIECA website at http://www.sieca.int under the "Procedure to Provide Licenses." The format is the same for all the CACU member countries.

In order to receive this CACU's benefit, the only procedure that a CACU country has to carry out is to request a "Registration Acknowledgment" which is the same throughout Central America excluding Costa Rica. The acknowledgment lasts the length of time that the product is registered, which is five years.

The Sanitary Inscription is the authorization granted to an importer or distributor of a previously registered product. For additional information U.S. exporters should contact DGVMN's at the following e-mail: direccion\_dgrs@yahoo.es or refer to the Secretariat of Health's DGVM contact data at Appendix I.

## Section VIII. Copyright and/or Trademark Laws:

The GOH has taken actions to improve Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). Historically, well-known trademarks were subject to infringement, and protection under local law did not approach international standards. However, in 1993 Honduras passed a comprehensive IPR law. The GOH has since complied with the requirements of this legislation by creating an IPR Office within the Economic Development Secretariat.

As a signatory to the Uruguay Round agreements and member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), Honduras has accepted the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) standard. In addition, Honduras has signed CAFTA-DR, which contains a chapter on IPR. To be protected under Honduran Law, trademarks must be registered with the Economic Development Secretariat. Trademark registrations are valid for 10 years starting from the registration date. "Notorious marks" are protected under the Pan-American Convention (1917) of which Honduras is a member. Illegal registration of a notorious mark, however, must be contested in court by the original holder.

## **Section IX. Import Procedures:**

- 1. SENASA requires that prior to issuing an import permit, the importer that handles and stores food products of animal origin must first be registered with SENASA's Food Safety Division (known as DIA). DIA has a registry of Honduran import establishments, which they have inspected and have made eligible for the importation of these products. The Honduran import establishments must comply with all the requirements to keep the product under food safety conditions.
- 2. Processed products must have the Sanitary Registration Number (SRN) requested by the importer and issued by the DGVMN prior to entering the country. Only food samples to be used for the registration process will be allowed to enter the country without this number.
- **3**. The importers of food products of animal origin should submit the import permit request with copy of the following documents to SENASA: Zoosanitary Certificate, Certificate of Origin and Pro-form Commercial Invoice. Further information can be found at the Honduras GAIN Report: Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Export Certificate Report No. H01506.
- **4**. Importers of plant products do not need to register their facilities with SENASA's DIA. The import permit request must be submitted only with the Pro-form Commercial Invoice. However, when the product arrives to the port of entry in Honduras the original Phytosanitary Certificate and Certificate of Origin documents are required for the inspection.
- **5**. The import permit application forms can be accessed at: http://www.senasa-sag.gob.hn under "Permisos, and then Formularios de Importacion y Solicitud de Permisos" (Permits, and then Import Forms and Import Requests). If there are problems in downloading the form, the importer can obtain it at the SENASA office. The import permit process of SENASA takes from 24 to 72 hours if all

documents are in order. The permit is applied to one shipment and is valid for 30 days. In case the permit is not used within 30 days of issuance, the importer requests a renewal for five days before or five days after the expiration day of the import permit. SENASA will renew the import permit for an additional 30 days. However, after five days of the expiration date the importer has to submit a new import permit application.

SENASA is working towards the use of the electronic signatures to authorize the import permits on/line. Honduras, however, does not yet have a law implementing this new standard.

The above mentioned documents and the import request should be clear and show the same amounts, description, country of origin, and point of shipping of the products to be brought.

### **Other Documents Required:**

**Shipping Documents.** The documents that should accompany a shipment which are required at the port of entry are the original of the Bill of Lading, Commercial Invoice, Phyto or Zoosanitary Certificate and Packing list.

**Photocopy of Sanitary Registration.** The Customs and Tax Directorate (known as DEI in Spanish) requires by law that all local, importing and food distributors have a Sanitary Registration Number with the Secretariat of Health.

**Photocopy of Import License.** Importers of dairy products with the Harmonized Code from 04.01 to 04.06 and 1901.10.1 and 1901.90.20 must have an import license issued by the Secretariat of Economic Development (SDE) (previously named Secretariat of Industry and Trade - SIC).

The harmonized codes are for milk, cream, butter, yogurt, cheeses, baby formula and powdered milk. Importers will need to register only once. The license will have 60-day validity and can be extended at the request of the importer. SDE has five working days to issue the import license; SDE will assign a number to be used for the import procedure. DEI requests the number of the Import License when the importer registers the dairy import in DEI's system.

#### **Import Process at Port of Entry:**

SAG delegated the responsibility of all quarantine inspections and treatments of agricultural imports to the International Regional Organization for Plant and Animal Health (OIRSA). OIRSA's Plant and Animal Protection Service (SEPA) inspectors are located at the borders, ports, and airports. They follow SENASA's instructions to enforce the import requirements of raw animal and plant products, processed and consumer ready foods, as well as inputs used in food processing at the time of entry.

- SEPA and inspectors from the Customs and Tax Directorate (DEI) are involved in clearing imports of food and agricultural products. The SEPA inspectors review all the documents and conduct an inspection at the port-of-entry of the following: the original import permit approved by SENASA, and

the original Phyto or Zoosanitary Certificate. SEPA evaluates the compliance of requirements indicated on the import permit such as: if the Additional Declarations requested is included in the Phyto or Zoosanitary Certificates, if the country of origin of the product is the one authorized on the import permit; and if it is the same origin in the label of the product entering the country. A Suppliers or Manufacturers Export Declaration as proof of compliance is not accepted.

- SEPA also inspects that the expiration date, lot number and production date appear in Spanish on the shipping carton(s). The requested dates must be provided in the Day/Month/Year format (DD/MM/YYYY). If the products do not comply with this requirement, they are not allowed entry and must be returned.
- SEPA consults additional supporting papers during the inspection to collate data of the shipment's content, verify amounts, and the documents submitted. The documents are the Bill of Lading, Commercial invoice and the Packing list. This help to streamline the entry process.
- Prior to granting customs clearance, the SEPA inspector reviews all the documents provided and conducts an inspection of the product. The entry of animal products and by-products depends on the food safety conditions of the product itself. It also depends on the exporting country's current animal health and pest's status.
- SENASA modified its Quarantine Procedures Manual through Resolution No. 250-14 in March 2014. The new Manual indicates that when a non-quarantine pest is found alive or dead, the quarantine treatment will not be applied. The modification saves importers time and money that would have been used on the treatment.
- In cases that a quarantine pest is found, a treatment will be applied prior allowing the product to enter the country. SENASA indicates that the exception is with pests that due to their biology could enter in a diapause stage, such as the Trogoderma Granadium and Trogoderma Glabrun. In this situation, the treatment is not applied and the product is returned to the country of origin.
- Product sampling is done randomly. It is taken from animal products origin, seeds that the import permit requires it, and when bacteria or fungi are found. Samples are submitted to laboratory analysis to check the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the product. If the laboratory analysis indicates that the product does not meet acceptable standards, the product may be confiscated and later destroyed or re-exported depending on its condition and characteristics as determined by the authorities.
- In the case of the arrival of shipments that did not go through SENASA's import permit process, they are detained at the port of entry. The entrance is authorized until all the requirements of the import permit are completed and complied with.
- DEI officials review that the invoice complies with the GOH's revenue tariff.

- The customs clearance is usually granted within a short period of time; however, depending on the work load at the port and whether or not all of SENASA's requirements are complete, the time period can range from a few hours to five days.
- The new specialized container and cargo terminals in Puerto Cortes, took over the operations of loading and unloading cargo. The "Operadora Portuaria Centroamerica (OPC) loads and unloads containers in dock No.4. The "Terminal Especializada de Honduras" (T.E.H) manages the bulk cargo in dock No.3.

## **Appendix I. Government Regulatory Agency Contacts:**

#### **Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG):**

National Plant and Animal Health Service (SENASA)

Name: Ing. Ricardo Paz Mejia

Title: General Director

Servicio Nacional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (SENASA) (National Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service)

Secretariat of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG)

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#### **Secretariat of Health (MOH):**

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#### **Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Contacts:**

#### **National Plant and Animal Health Service (SENASA)**

#### **Animal Health:**

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